

Farm and Household.

Communications are solicited for this column by farmers and their wives, or any one else who can give any thing of practical importance up to date.

WHAT KIND OF HOGS TO BREED.

Breed the hog that matures early, and by this I mean a hog that will begin to fatten as soon as you begin to feed, and will grow and thrive as long as you are disposed to feed him. I think no argument is needed to prove to any one that this kind of hog will be the most profitable, if not the only kind that will be profitable at all. Time was when we had no market for pork except at a certain season of the year, and farmers made their arrangements to only have money once a year. But all these things have changed. Money and fat hogs are in demand every day in the year.—Hence the necessity and importance of having the hog that matures early. In order to do this we must get rid of the idea that we can find a breed that will in the proper time make hogs to weigh five to six hundred pounds.

I have no doubt that there are several breeds that will do this if you keep them long enough, but the question is whether it is better to raise (or attempt to raise) one hog that will reach six hundred pounds, or two that will reach six hundred pounds, or two that will weigh three hundred pounds each? And is answer to this I hold that fifty hogs can be procured that will weigh three hundred each at one year old easier and with less feed than twenty-five can that will weigh six hundred pounds. Now if this be true, then the argument is vastly in favor of the fifty three hundred pound hogs, as that size, if they are fat and smooth as they ought to be, will command as good a figure in the market as any other.

I am in favor of producing the hog that will give him the best return in the shortest time, and to do this dreams of mammoth hogs by the score must be abandoned unless you seek notoriety, and not money.—Cor. *Rural Messenger.*

FOUNDER IN HORSES.

Many years ago I learned a cure for founder in horses which is so simple, and proved so successful in my hands, that I send it to you, thinking it may be of service to some of your readers. Clean out bottom of foot thoroughly—hold up the leg so as to bring the bottom of the hoof upward, holding it firmly in a horizontal position, and pour in, say a table spoonful of spirits turpentine, if the cavity of the foot will hold that much—if not, pour in what it will hold, without danger of running over; touch the turpentine with a red hot iron (this will set it on fire) hold the hoof firmly in position until it burns out.

Great care must be taken that none runs over on the hair of the hoof, lest the skin be burned. If all the feet be affected, burn turpentine in each of them. Relief will speedily follow and the animal be ready for service in a short time.

I once applied this remedy to a horse that had been foaled twenty-four hours before I saw him, and he was promptly relieved. In another case, where the animal could hardly be induced to move, his suffering was so great, he was treated in the same manner as soon as his trouble was discovered, and less than an hour afterward he was hitched to a buggy and driven some twenty-five miles the same day—all lameness disappearing after he had traveled a few miles.—Cor. *Southern Cultivator.*

TOMATOES—RAISE AND SAVE PLENTY OF THEM.

Nothing else, except potatoes, supplies a better standard article of food during the whole year. Cooked with plenty of bread crumbs they furnish a very palatable and nourishing table dish, especially from December to June, when fresh garden vegetables are not abundant. Having sometimes failed with glass jars, we now use tin cans ten inches long and four and a half inches in diameter (cut from a sheet of tin ten by fourteen inches, and cheaply made). A hole, say one and a half inch in diameter, is left in one end. The tomatoes, in large quantity at a time, are cooked well, as for the table, but without salt. They are poured into the cans hot, and a bit of tin well soldered on. We put up fifteen to forty cans at a time, and call in a tinner to do the soldering, as we have a large number of cans ready at a time. Thus closely sealed they will keep perfectly a month, a year, or five years. To provide against a poor year and insure a full supply always, we put them up for one or two years in advance. Scald the empty cans and set them away dry, and they can be used several times with a little help from the tinner to smooth the heads.

AGRICULTURAL ITEMS.

The oak tree caterpillars are doing much damage in Preble county, Ohio.

The town of Hatfield, Mass., realizes \$25,000 annually from its tobacco crop.

The annual Fair of the Tobacco Association of Cincinnati takes Place August 3d.

A writer says that he has no hesitation in saying from his experience in the matter, that the American thorn, from its hardness and perfect adaptability to the purpose required, must become the hedge plant for American farmers.

It pays to clip over a pasture land with a scythe at coarse places left by the cattle, and cart and stack near stables for bedding.

The value of our farm crops for the year 1859, divided equally among the population, would give nearly \$100 to each man, woman, and child in the United States.

The New England Homestead says that the market-gardeners in the neighborhood of Springfield are surrowing over the failure of their onion crop caused by the onion maggot.

Iowa plants every year a forest of 5,000,000 trees. Within considerably less than half a dozen years 25,000,000 forest trees have been planted, and are now growing in the Northwest.

Successful farming is made by attention to little things. The farmer who does his best, earns his money with best appreciation, and uses it with best results. Such men are the salt of the earth.

When horses' stables are not properly ventilated nor lighted, it is an excellent plan to make a small window where each horse may thrust out his nose when he is not eating and breathe pure air.

Mr. Arnold, in the Ithaca, N. Y., Farmers' Club recently stated that clover pasture does not make the best beef; that the finest in the country comes from Kentucky, where the cattle feed on blue grass.

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Forge's Weekly Press says unwillingness to adopt new implements cannot be charged to farmers generally. It thinks no class has been more ready to adopt every useful implement, and cites the change from the implements used 20 years ago, in proof of this statement.

DOMESTIC HINTS.

Bread and cakes should be kept in a tin box or stone jar.

A hot shovel held over varnished furniture will take out white spots.

Frozen potatoes make more starch than fresh ones; they also make nice cake.

Select nutmegs, prick them with a pin. If they are good, the oil will instantly spread around the point.

Two gallons of fine charcoal will purify a dozen hogheads of water when the smell is so unpleasant it will set it on fire.

Do not wrap knives and forks in woollens; wrap them in good strong paper. Steel is injured by tying in woollens.

This is no humbug!

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